

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for July 30, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



KUSAHC closes for organization day

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will close at noon, Aug. 1 for Organization Day.

Patients are asked to plan accordingly for medication pickup and medical needs.

OC&S schedules final retreat tomorrow

Motorist may have to adjust their routes for the last scheduled outdoor retreat ceremony by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools July 25.

Aberdeen Boulevard from Boothby Hill Road to Bel Air Street will be closed 4 to 5 p.m. Also, a gun salute will be fired, which may cause smoke interference for traffic on Aberdeen Boulevard.

The organization also requests quiet hours be observed during the ceremony, which includes no aircraft flyovers, training noise or weapons testing.

Retreat music will not be played over the post loudspeaker system July 25 as it will be played for the ceremony at Ordnance Circle.

For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Jerry McIntyre, 410-278-4908, or Sgt. 1st Class Robert Cunningham, 410-278-5751.

ACS to celebrate 43rd Birthday today

Army Community Service will celebrate its 43rd birthday with a picnic, face painting, balloon animals, cake, food, fun and festivities, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 24, at Maryland Boulevard Park. Free tickets are available at the Aberdeen Area ACS, building 2754 and Edgewood Area ACS, building E-4630. For more information, call 410-278-4372.

Child care for military Families

The Military Fee Assistance Program has off-post, licensed child care for military or DoD Families assigned to Fort

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New leader assumes role at DTC

DTC

On a picture perfect morning, against a backdrop of 50 state flags rippling in the breeze and several armored vehicles including an MRAP and an Abrams Tank, Brig. Gen. Frank "Del" Turner passed the guidon of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command to its Executive Director James B. Johnson during a change of responsibility ceremony July 15.

Johnson, who has been DTC's executive director since January 2007, having come from Huntsville, Ala., where he had been director of Redstone Technical Test Center, now assumes leadership of the organization for the foreseeable future.

In accepting the responsibility, Johnson assured Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commanding general of DTC's higher headquarters, the U.S. Army Test & Evaluation Command, that "I understand my mission and appreciate its importance. I will not let you down."

Turner moves on to a position as deputy to the commander and chief of staff for the U.S. Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe, Va., but before leaving, he reflected on his time as DTC's commander.

"Today I stand here [before you] and say, 'Move over Lou Gehrig, for I now consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth. For the past two years, it has been my great fortune to have commanded the Developmental Test Command... the most relevant command in the continental United States supporting the Global War on Terrorism,'" Turner said.

He thanked DTC's work force, both here at Aberdeen Proving Ground and across seven other test centers.

"I've been blessed . . . to serve with some of the finest patriots this country has to offer . . . the eighty five hundred very professional, experienced, well-educated, widely-acclaimed employees who come to work each



Photo by APG PHOTO LAB

As members of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center's color guard look on, James B. Johnson, left, accepts the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command standard from Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command commanding general, in Change-of-Responsibility ceremonies July 15 in front of DTC headquarters. Johnson is the executive director of DTC, and will lead the organization for the foreseeable future.

day with a single-mindedness that sometimes borders on stubbornness--'What can I do today to support the Soldier? What can I do today to make him or her safer?'"

During their remarks,

Johnson and Turner thanked the 100th Division Band from Fort Knox, Ky., the salute battery from APG's U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, the color guard from the

U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and the supporting units, comprising commanders, directors and senior noncommissioned officers from DTC's test centers for participating in the ceremony.

60th anniversary of integration in military approaches

IMCOM

On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981, establishing the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, and effectively eliminating segregation in America's armed forces. It was accompanied by Executive Order 9980, which created a Fair Employment

Board to eliminate racial discrimination in federal employment.

George Mercer, public affairs officer for Aberdeen Proving Ground, said that Truman's decision had a tremendous impact in that it changed the military and American culture forever.

"Others made contributions but his actions were without question overwhelming," Mercer said.

"He understood that if you're going to be president, then you have to be president for everybody. The president of the United States said, 'We are going to change because it's the right thing to do.'"

Mercer said that by the time he entered the military, 10 years later during the Vietnam era, "blacks and whites were eating together and sharing fox-

holes; it was no big deal."

He added that the military led the way and set the example for society.

"It changed the way we interact with each other and helped make possible the changes in schools, businesses and the workplace," Mercer said.

Although the 60th anniversary of integration in the armed forces falls on July 26, the Army will remem-

ber the anniversary with a series of events at installations around the globe through Aug. 10.

Army leaders, equal employment opportunity specialists and public affairs personnel continue to stress the importance of the benefits of a diverse military and workforce.

John McLaurin, deputy assistant secretary for

See INTEGRATION, page 11

Focus groups to determine future of Family housing

Story by

YVONNE JOHNSON

APG News

Picerne Military Housing and Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold four focus group sessions in an effort to gain input from Soldiers about quality of life and standard of living issues in the housing areas.

The Directorate of Installation Operations housing office announced the selection of Picerne Military Housing as the Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) housing privatization partner in May. Now Picerne and APG are working to develop the Community Development Management Plan (CDMP) which will serve as a blueprint for on-post family housing for the next 50 years.

Focus group participants will be randomly selected to participate in one of four 90-minute sessions to be held Aug. 12 at Top of the Bay, in the Regimental Room, 2nd

floor. Session times are 8:30 to 10 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. to noon; 1 to 2:30 p.m.; and 3 to 4:30 p.m.

In addition, sponsors and their spouses are asked to fill out the confidential survey concerning the new housing initiative and return it in the postage-paid envelope by Aug. 4, or deliver it to the APG Conference Center, building 2908, by the same date.

Pat Hector, housing manager, said participants will be notified of their selection in the mail and are asked to return the 'confirmation/intention to attend' promptly.

"This is a chance for military personnel to voice their opinions about what they would like to see added to new housing," Hector said. "It's their chance to represent APG."

Anyone interested in participating in the focus groups should contact Hector, housing manager, 410-306-2010 or Cecilia Howard, housing chief, 410-306-2011.

9th AML hails new commander

Story by

STEVE ROCHETTE

APG NEWS

The 9th Area Medical Laboratory welcomed its incoming commander and paid tribute to the departing commander during a ceremony at McBride Parade Field July 15.

Col. Terrell W. Blanchard assumed command of the 9th AML from Col. David W. Craft, who spent 2 years leading the unit.

Col. Ronald A. Maul, commander of the 44th Medical Command at Fort Bragg, N.C., oversaw the ceremony and presented Blanchard with the unit colors.

Maul expressed confidence in Blanchard, stating his experience, skills and talents will serve the command well in the future. He thanked Craft for his dedicated service to the 9th AML.

"Through your compassion, mature and solid leadership, you have taken a great unit and made it better," Maul said. "There is little doubt that you are well suited to your next assignment."

Craft departs the 9th AML for the Walter Reed Army Institute of

Research where he will serve as a senior microbiologist.

Craft described his time with the unit as "the two most rewarding years of my life." He thanked the 9th AML, the various organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground and his family for their support and hard-work.

"I'm both blessed and humbled to be standing before you today," Craft said. "Time does not allow me to share with you the motivation, talents and successes of the men and women in that formation, and those that have PCS'd [permanently changed station] or deployed."

Soldiers from the 9th AML stood at attention on the parade field while the symbolic exchange took place.

Blanchard, who comes to the unit from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, vowed to continue a tradition of strong leadership at the 9th AML. He commended the unit for their dedication and said it was an honor to lead them.

"Being given the opportunity to command Soldiers is by far the

See 9TH AML, page 11

Ten win gold at May FEB awards luncheon

Story by

YVONNE JOHNSON

APG News

Ten Aberdeen Proving Ground employees were presented gold awards during the 2008 Excellence in Federal Career awards program at Martin's West in Baltimore May 2.

Silver and bronze awards went to 73 during the annual ceremony that is presented by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board.

Supervisors from federal installations or organizations submit nominees for FEB awards months in advance and a blue ribbon panel of senior executives, along with members of the executive committee, selects the award levels.

This year, APG personnel won awards in 18 of the 19 categories and gold awardees spanned 10 of the 19. They included personnel from the U.S. Army's Aberdeen Test Center; Army Research Laboratory; Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Army Evaluation Center; Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; Developmental Test Command; Army Evaluation Center; Army Chemical Materials Agency; Army Ordnance Center and Schools; Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School; Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine; Edgewood Chemical Biological Command; U.S. Army Garrison and the U.S. Air Force Detachment 1, 361st Training Squadron.

See FEB, page 16

KUSAHC training center renamed to honor APG nurse killed in Iraq

Story by

RACHEL PONDER

APG NEWS

Nearly 200 people, including dignitaries, friends and former co-workers, gathered on the lawn of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic July 10 for the dedication ceremony of a training center renamed to honor an APG nurse killed in Iraq on the one year anniversary of her death.

Capt. Maria Ortiz, a former chief nurse of General Medicine at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, was killed during a mortar attack in Baghdad's green zone July 10, 2007. She was assigned to the 28th Combat Support Hospital as head nurse for the Intermediate Care Ward.

Ortiz was serving in Baghdad's green zone, or the international zone, which is the heavily guarded diplomatic/government area of closed-off streets in central Baghdad where U.S. occupation authorities live and work, when she died.

Her death came as a shock to her family, friends and former co-workers. Military officials say she was the first nurse to die in combat since the Vietnam War. She was also the first Puerto Rican to die in combat.

To honor her sacrifice, KUSAHC's "Readiness Training Center" is now the "Cpt. Maria I. Ortiz Training Center" or OTC.

During the ceremony KUSAHC's Medical Detachment Color Guard stood in the background to honor Ortiz. Sgt. 1st Class Wendy Daugherty, senior medical noncommissioned officer for KUSAHC, welcomed attendees and Garrison Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon Jr. gave the invocation.

"Today we seek God's blessing as we dedicate this place. Let this memorialize the sacrifice that she made for our nation," he said.

Col. Laurie Cummings, commander of Fort George G. Meade's

See ORTIZ, page 11



Photo courtesy of TRUDY STEVENSON
Lt. Gen. Mitchell H. Stevenson receives his third star from wife Nancy, left, and daughter Patricia, right, during his promotion ceremony at the Pentagon June 17. The former chief of Ordnance took over as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4 after commanding the U.S. Army Combined Army Support Command at Fort Lee, Va.

Former chief of Ordnance with Aberdeen roots becomes Army logistics deputy

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A graduate of Aberdeen High School, a former chief of ordnance at Aberdeen Proving Ground and a career logistician was awarded his third star during a June 17 ceremony at the Pentagon.

Lt. Gen. Mitchell H. Stevenson was the 31st chief of Ordnance, commanding the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools from July 2000 to August 2003. From September 2003 to October 2005 he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, G3, U.S. Army Materiel Command and he became the commander of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command and Fort Lee, Va., in October 2005.

In June, Stevenson took over as the Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, G4.

He and his wife Nancy have two children and his parents, retired Sgt. 1st Class Donald E. and Trudy Stevenson still live in Aberdeen.

“Of course we are all very proud of him,” Trudy Stevenson said, noting that along with Aberdeen, the Family lived in Hawaii, Oklahoma, North Carolina and other places as her husband changed assignments.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. presided over the promotion ceremony, she added.

“We were very happy to be able to be there, especially since I know how hard he works and the long

hours he keeps to do his job well,” she said.

Stevenson’s previous assignments include Fort Riley, Kan.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; Fort Belvoir, Va.; Washington, D.C. and Germany. He is a graduate of the Infantry Officer’s Basic Course, the Ordnance Officer’s Advanced Course, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; and the U.S. Army War College.

He holds a master’s in logistics management from the Florida Institute of Technology and a bachelor’s in psychology from West Virginia University.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation and Achievement medals and the Kuwait Liberation and Southwest Asia Service medals.

In an e-mail interview, Stevenson shared the following thoughts on his past and his future.

1. At what point in your career, did you realize you could become a three-star general, and how does it feel now that you are?

I guess it never really occurred to me until I had served for a while as a major general, and became comfortable that I was capable of performing at the next higher rank. As I said at my promotion ceremony, I am humbled by the responsibility that has been bestowed upon me, and will do my utmost to fulfill my obligations.

2. What was your great-

est challenge or most memorable tour?

Probably my assignment as a battalion commander in the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

3. Are there any persons you would like to thank for their support or mentorship?

First, my parents, who still live in Aberdeen, for raising me with the right values and work ethic. Secondly, the many friends, peers, subordinates and superiors who, over the years, have taken me under their wings and helped me to become a better officer.

4. What is your opinion of today’s wartime volunteer force?

The Soldiers we have in the Army today are the best Soldiers we have ever had in my 34 years of service.

5. What is your new assignment? Have you set any goals?

My new assignment is the Army’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, G-4. Our goal is to be innovative, adaptive, anticipating and always ready to provide effective and efficient support to the Warfighter. It is a goal we share with logisticians Army-wide.

6. From a ‘hometown boy does good aspect,’ is there anyone at AHS or APG you’d like to thank or recognize?

My former soccer coach at APG, Mr. Terry Colaw - - may he rest in peace. [He was] a great man.

Dahl becomes Ordnance Regimental CWO

Story and photo by
ROGER TEEL
USAOC&S

A change of responsibility ceremony was held at the Ball Conference Center July 10 installing the Ordnance Corps’ 6th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Arthur G. Dahl IV follows 40-year Army veteran Chief Warrant Officer 5 Harold L. DeBerry as the senior warrant officer of the Ordnance Corps. DeBerry retired from active duty in ceremonies later the same day.

Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, the chief of Ordnance, presided over the ceremony in which the Regimental Warrant Officer Charter was passed from DeBerry to Dahl. Retired Honorary Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Joe Wurm, director of the Ordnance Corps Association, presented the charter for the ceremonial exchange.

Dahl said following in DeBerry’s footsteps would be difficult because, “the oldest CW5 in the Army is being followed by the youngest CW5 in the Army.”

He added that the ceremony was personally significant because Maj. Gen. James W. Ball, the chief of Ordnance from 1988 to 1990 and for whom the conference center is named, pinned warrant officer 1 bars on Dahl on the same stage 18 years ago.

Dahl comes to the Ordnance Center from an assignment as senior ordnance logistics manager to the commanding general at the U.S. Army Tank-armor and Automotive Command Life Cycle Management Command, Anniston Army Depot, Ala.

He is married to the former Diane Robinson of Burke, Va., and has a

daughter, Ashleigh, and a son, Ryan.

In his remarks, Collyar noted DeBerry’s special leadership qualities.

“What makes you so very effective as a leader is your competence, dedication and willingness to share your heart and soul,” he said.

“As the Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, Chief DeBerry was responsible for maintaining the health of the Army’s largest technical service warrant officer branch -- nearly four thousand Soldiers in nine different specialties -- all while the Army transformed, making this task even more challenging,” Collyar said.

“Every one of the warrant officer specialties experienced force structure growth at a rapid pace. Chief DeBerry’s response was an aggressive marketing strategy, synchronized with warrant officers in the field to entice young Soldiers to submit warrant officer applications. The results speak for themselves; the Ordnance Corps has never missed an accessions goal.”

The Ordnance chief added that DeBerry was the architect for the Corps’ Warrant Officer Education System redesign. An initiative started by the Army Chief of Staff, DeBerry took the lead and restructured Ordnance Corps’ courses, the end result being a more capable warrant officer who is better prepared to operate in today’s environment.

DeBerry was also liaison between executive officers, project managers and TACOM LCMC officials to ensure the Ordnance Warfighter had a voice in technology and system improvements. He was instrumental in identifying shortfalls and enablers affecting condition-based maintenance and overall two-level maintenance doctrine.



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Harold L. DeBerry, second from left, passes the Regimental Ordnance Warrant Officer Charter to the Chief of Ordnance Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar during a July 10 change of responsibility ceremony. Incoming Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Arthur G. Dahl IV, right, waits to accept the charter as retired Honorary Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Joe Wurm, left, looks on.

Commentary: Wow! Ending a 40-year career

By
ROGER TEEL
USAOC&S

“Wow!” With that one final word, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Harold L. DeBerry pulled the curtain down on his 40-year Army career.

Wow! The word had a lasting impact on everyone attending DeBerry’s July 10 retirement ceremony at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools’ Ball Conference Center. It reverberated later that evening at his retirement dinner at APG’s Top of the Bay.

DeBerry’s son, Brian, used it to describe his father as he introduced him for his final comments at the end of an eventful day.

Wow! The word was DeBerry’s way of keeping himself in character; a humble revelation about a military career that began in the killing fields of Vietnam



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB
Chief Warrant Officer 5 Harold L. DeBerry

and culminated as the Ordnance Corps’ fifth Regimental Chief Warrant Officer.

The word connoted the power of people, people who DeBerry had led, mentored and befriended over the years.

A 40-year career encapsulated in one word: Wow!

Soft-spoken yet eloquent, DeBerry chose his parting comments carefully. The war stories

could wait, he said. This was a time to acknowledge those who helped him get to where he was that day.

He graciously nodded to his former commanders, thanking the men he knew long ago as lieutenants and captains who now as colonels had made the trek to APG to see him retire.

He called out the names of his colleagues, his partners, his buddies, his friends.

He publicly honored his Family, his great Army Family. He recalled when his Family -- wife Gloria (a retired first sergeant), his son Brian (an infantryman) and daughter Roslyn -- all deployed to Iraq together in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

The DeBerrys are, without question, a great Army Family.

Maj. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, the Army’s assistant deputy chief

of staff, G-4, and former chief of Ordnance, presided over DeBerry’s retirement proceedings and recalled how he came to select DeBerry to be the Regimental CWO.

“Once I made my decision, I told the other warrants being considered that I had chosen Harold DeBerry,” he said. “In unison, they all said it was the right choice.”

Boles led the audience on a 40-year journey -- putting them in DeBerry’s shoes, recalling the music and movies of the day back in 1968. He told them Harold DeBerry had lived the Army Values before the Army thought of writing them down.

Boles said life could throw nothing at DeBerry that would be as challenging as his childhood, growing up on a farm in southeast Tennessee. DeBerry’s father

See DEBERRY, page 15

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation

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cation to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor-apg@conus.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

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APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary: Poole’s Island! What a place!

By
BILL ARMSTRONG
APG Wildlife and Marine Law
Enforcement Division

Wow, if there was ever a place on Aberdeen Proving Ground that someone could write a book about, it would sure be Poole’s Island.

It’s got just about everything you might find in a best-selling novel: Capt. John Smith in 1608 (yep, the same fella that Pocahontas went out on a limb for); plundering and pillaging by the British in the War of 1812; it was once a plantation with slaves; it has ties to George Washington and the Revolutionary War; and at one time it was the proposed site of the first heavy weight boxing championship match in the United States. What more could you ask for in a good read?

Situated out in the middle of the upper Chesapeake Bay, this isolated tract of land is a boundary marker of the southern end of the APG reservation and one of my favorite “hiding places” whenever the boss goes on the warpath. Radio and telephone reception is just about non-existent out there, and the only way you can get there is by boat. So whenever things on the main post get kinda tedious, I jump in the boat and head for the island.

And what you might ask, does the island have to do with the APG outdoors? Well, in addition to being a terrific waterfowl and striped bass fishing location, Poole’s Island is home to probably the largest blue heron rookery on the Chesapeake Bay. Literally thousands of these birds begin arriving on this



Photo by BILL ARMSTRONG
Game warden and amateur photographer Bill Armstrong took this photo of a blue heron about to enjoy its dinner of blue crab on Poole’s Island.

280-acre tract of land in late February and March to begin their nesting rituals. Rough estimates by biologists and MWE personnel put the number of nests on the island at more than 1,500, with the numbers increasing every year.

Being the largest of our North American wading birds, standing some four feet high with a wingspan of close to six feet, they’re truly amazing to watch, especially in early spring when storms batter the island, as they struggle against the wind, bringing food back to the young chicks.

Talk about perseverance, these birds are loaded with it, and I didn’t know it until just recently they’re also out and about at night. The other night I was doing a late evening check of the shorelines in the Edgewood Area and long about midnight I came across one poised beneath a dawn-to-dusk light on the Gunpowder River side, catching small fish that were being attracted by the light. I

guess the heron had figured out that the night light made for good fishing.

About the only thing that really bothers the great blue heron during the nesting season is human intrusion, and because the island is so isolated and off-limits to the public due

to the presence of unexploded ordnance, it makes for a terrific place for the blue herons to raise their young.

Like I’ve said before, APG sure is blessed with an abundance of wildlife, and Poole’s Island says it all.

APG Soldiers caddy for the pros

Story by
STEVE ROCHETTE
APG News

Four Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers walked the greens with pro golfers while serving as honorary caddies during the AT&T National Tournament at Congressional Country Club July 2.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Dwayne Hawkins and Sgts. 1st Class John Blaha and Ricky Tate of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, caddied for pros Fred Funk, Brandt Snedeker and Robert Garrigus, respectively. Staff Sgt. Anthony Andela of the U. S. Army Materiel Command Band caddied for Trevor Immelman.

The honorary caddy program allowed military personnel to team up with a pro and caddy for the seventh hole of the course. After completing their caddying assignment, Soldiers watched the tournament and met other pro golfers.

“The pros were really receptive to us, and it was a great experience,” said Hawkins, who presented one of his warrant officer coins to Funk after the event.

Blaha, a lifelong golfer and fan, said he spoke with Snedeker about his approach to golf.

“He said you need to be not only physically ready, but mentally as well. He was an exceptionally nice person and had the utmost respect for all of us that defend our country,” Blaha said.

Debra Long, business manager APG Golf Courses, organized APG participation in the event to help recognize Soldiers from



Photo by SGT 1ST CLASS JOHN BLAHA

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Dwayne Hawkins, left, speaks with PGA golfer Fred Funk, right, during the 2008 AT&T National Tournament at Congressional Country Club. Hawkins and three other APG Soldiers served as honorary caddies July 2.

the installation. Long added that it was beneficial for Soldiers who enjoy the sport to see first hand how a member of the Professional Golfer’s Association would play a hole.

Hawkins, who plays golf in tournaments with Tate and Blaha, noted an amateur player allowed him to drive the ball for the 18th hole of the course.

“He was supportive of the military and really appreciative of what we do, so he wanted to let me drive for him. I hit the ball pretty well and set him up in a good spot,” he said.

Hawkins said he would like to see more APG involvement in the future with the honorary caddy program.

“It’s great to see Soldiers from APG get recognized and hopefully more [will] pursue the opportunity next year,” he said.



Photo by CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 DWAYNE HAWKINS

Sgt. 1st. Class John Blaha, left, carries the golf clubs of PGA golfer Brandt Snedeker, right, during the AT&T National Tournament.



Health Notes

Smoking prompts tooth decay, oral cancer

Story by
BETHANN CAMERON
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Most people know that smoking can cause heart disease, stroke, lung cancer or other respiratory diseases. But many don't know that smoking causes tooth decay and gum disease.

Drinking beverages like sports drinks or soda and eating sugary, starchy foods are not the only culprits. Smoking affects the whole mouth—teeth and gums. Besides decay, it can lead to oral cancer.

Smoking contributes to tooth decay and gum loss. It compromises the flow, amount and function of saliva in the mouth. Saliva is important for cleaning the lining of the mouth and teeth. The flow of saliva helps to counteract mouth acids that cause decay and protects the teeth from wearing away. The calcium in saliva helps to prevent tooth decay. The calcium remineralizes (hardens) the surfaces of the teeth.

Studies show that smokers tend to have more tooth decay than nonsmokers. Some studies show that children who are raised in households where one or both adults smoke are more likely to develop tooth decay because of mouth, breathing and respiratory infections.

Smoking can cause gum disease, which leads to tooth loss. Smoking reduces blood flow to the gums and cuts the supply of vital nutrients. It can also reduce the vitamin C levels needed to maintain healthy gums. It causes receding gums. The gums wear away; the teeth become loose and fall out. The tooth roots are exposed, which also increases the risk of tooth decay. These two factors—reduced blood flow and vitamin C levels—make attempts to treat gum disease in smokers less likely to succeed.

Smoking also raises the mouth's temperature, damaging and killing important cells and tissues in the mouth. The combination of high mouth temperature and cancer-causing compounds found in cigarettes (and cigars) can cause oral cancer, cancer of the mouth.

Smokers are two to 18 times more likely to develop oral cancer than nonsmokers. It depends on how heavily they smoke. Oral cancer strikes more Americans annually than some better-known cancers such as brain, thyroid, stomach, cervical and ovarian cancer. From 1997 to 2006, there were 110 cases of oral cancer among Department of Defense service members ages 20 to 24. For DoD service members over 40, oral cancer ranged from 116 to 122 cases per year.

The overall survival rate for oral cancer is low—nearly half of all oral cancer patients die within five years. More than half of all oral cancer cases are not detected until they reach an advanced stage. Early warning signs of oral cancer include:

- A swelling, lump or growth in the mouth that does not heal.
- White or red patches inside the mouth that don't go away.
- Loose teeth for no apparent reason.
- Pain when swallowing.
- Persistent sore throat.
- Difficulty swallowing or in opening your mouth.
- A nagging cough or persistent hoarseness.
- Unusual bleeding in your nose or mouth.
- Numbness or tingling in your lips or tongue.

Getting an oral cancer examination at your annual dental visit is a way to screen for the risk of oral cancer.



Illustration by CHPPM VISUAL INFORMATION DIVISION

As a Soldier, it is very important to maintain good oral hygiene in the field to prevent tooth decay and gum disease. A Soldier's risk of tooth decay increases in the field. Rations have a high amount of starch and sugar which bacteria use to produce acids that cause tooth decay.

A person's best defense against tooth decay and oral cancer is to stop smoking. Practice good hygiene by flossing and brushing daily.

Perform an oral cancer self-exam every month if you are at risk for oral cancer.

For more information on preventing tooth decay and improving oral health, visit these Web sites:

CHPPM Oral Fitness Program, <http://chppmw-ww.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/OralFitnessMain.aspx>

The American Dental Association, www.ada.org

The American Cancer Society, <http://www.cancer.org/>

Community Notes

FRIDAY
JULY 25
BOORDY VINEYARD
WINE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Boordy Wine Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The ship will take a 90 minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area with wines from Boordy Winery, cheese, fruit, beer and sodas. A representative from Boordy will be onboard to tell about the wines, the winery and to answer any questions. Reservations are required. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY
JULY 26
CREATIVE CLAY

Gather, prepare and create a piece of art out of natural clay. This program will be held 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for ages 8 to 14. The cost is \$5 and registration is required. For information, registration or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

True Joy Ministries is sponsoring a block party and gas coupon giveaway, noon to 4 p.m. at 690 Philadelphia Boulevard in Aberdeen, between Golden Corral and Walmart. Fifty \$15 gas coupons will be given away.

The event includes games and entertainment for youths and adults, hot dogs, burgers and refreshments, local vendors, moon bounce, balloons, face painting, voter registration, Extreme Family Outreach and more.

At 3 p.m., coupon winners will convoy to the Aberdeen WAWA convenience store, 231 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, to receive their free gas. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Telsee, 410-273-9715 or e-mail truejoyministries@aol.com.

FANCY-FUL POTS

Paint and print fancy pots for planting or decorating. A 6-inch pot with a drainage tray will be provided. This program will be held 1:30 to 3 p.m. for ages 8 to adult, 8 to 12 with an adult. The cost is \$10 and registration is required. For information, registration or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit cancer aid and research for Veterans of Foreign Wars will be held at the VFW Post 8185, located

on 520 Susquehanna River Road, Port Deposit. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., bingo begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person for all paper cards. Food, beverages, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will be available.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or VFW Post 8185, 410-642-9297.

HAVANA NIGHT CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Havana Night Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m. aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Enjoy Cuban appetizers along with Cuba's national drink the Mojito, beer, sodas and light refreshments. Cost is \$40 per person. Reservations are required. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

SUNDAY
JULY 27
UNDERYOUR FEET

Each participant will create their own view of what is under their feet, way down deep in the earth. This program will be held 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon for ages 5 to adult, 5 to 10 with an

adult. The cost is \$4 and registration is required.

For information, registration or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE AND FISH FRY

VFW Post 8185 located on 520 Susquehanna River Road, Port Deposit, will hold a Chicken Bar-B-Que and Fish Fry, 11 a.m. at VFW Post 8185.

Single platter costs \$8 and combo platter is \$10. Platters include two sides: baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, roll and butter. Proceeds will benefit VFW Post 8185 Men's Auxiliary.

For more information, call Rick Hall, 717-548-2365, Steve Gibson, 410-378-3338 or VFW Post 8185, 410-642-9297.

CHILDREN'S GARDENING – SUNFLOWER HOUSETEA PARTY

Have fun growing food and flowers here and at home. Enjoy crafts, games and science disguised as fun while learning about seeds, life cycles and growing food and flowers in a watershed-friendly way. This program will be held 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 5 to 10. The cost is \$4 and registration is required.

For information, registration or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SUNDAY SUNDAE CRUISE

Join the Skipjack Martha Lewis for a Sunday Sundae Cruise, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sundaes on the Susquehanna with Brewster's ice cream – plan to take the Family out for ice cream and a sail. Cost is \$15 per person. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

MONDAY
JULY 28
MOTHER'S MORNING CRUISE

Get the sitter and take the

morning off to relax, get pampered with mimosas, quiche and a chair massage on the Skipjack Martha Lewis - all this while sailing. Cost is \$20 per person. Reservations required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

OPEN HOUSE AND BOOK SIGNING

Please join the Skipjack Martha Lewis for an open house, 4 to 7 p.m. at the Tidewater Grill Dock. Learn more about what the crew of the skipjack does, meet the captain. Local author M. Kei will arrive 5 p.m. and will be signing his new book, Slow Motion: The Log of a Chesapeake Bay Skipjack, a collection of waterman tanka poetry.

For more information, call 410-939-4078.

TIDEWATER GRILL HORS D'OEUVRES CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer fine dining with a Tidewater Grill Hors D'oeuvres Cruise, 7 to 8:30 p.m. aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. The skipjack will depart from the Tidewater Grill with delicious appetizers and a relaxing sail - complete with assorted beverages. Cost is \$35 per person. Reservations required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

WEDNESDAY
JULY 30
AFTERNOONTEA

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer an Afternoon Tea Cruise, 2 to 3:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$35 per person. Finger sandwiches, scones and savory desserts will be served. Reservations are required.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 410-939-4078.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

Post Shorts

Meade, Fort Detrick, Walter Reed or Aberdeen Proving Ground. Child Care Military Services is a program of the Maryland Committee for Children, Inc.

For more information, call LOCATE: Child Care Military Services, 1-800-999-0120.

BJ's membership still available

Additional dates have been added for membership with BJ's Wholesale Club. A BJ's representative will be at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., July 29.

For more information, call Patti Harkins, assistant funds manager, Civilian Welfare and Post Restaurant Fund, 410-273-2075 or 410-278-4603.

JETS, USO-Metro job fair tomorrow

The Joint Employment Transition Services, or JETS, and the USO of Metropolitan Washington will host a job fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 25, located at the Spates Community Club, located on 214 McNair Road, Fort Myer, Va.

Employers include area police and fire departments, federal agencies, health care agencies, defense and government contractors are participating to discuss job openings with candidates.

All military I.D. card holders are eligible to attend. Military personnel should bring resumes and be prepared for on-site interviews. No children please.

For more information, call Dawn Fincham, 703-805-4277, e-mail dawn@usometro.org or Cassie Camp, 703-805-2464, e-mail cassie@usometro.org.

National Night Out is Aug. 5

The APG Police invites the APG community to its annual National Night Out,

5 to 8 p.m., Aug. 5, at the McGruff House located in Patriot Village. The National Night Out will be a block party/cook out with fun and games provided by the Police, the Army Substance Abuse Program and Army Community Service.

National Night Out promotes communities taking a stand against crime in their neighborhoods. It will be an opportunity to meet and greet police officers from each division and ask questions about their specific duties. The Police will have K-9, marine and wildlife, SWAT, traffic, detectives and crime prevention units available, and the Fire Department will also be there.

The Army Ready program also will be introduced to the community with displays for the community to better understand the program. Contests for children will be announced.

For more information, call 410-278-3609.

Register for next Strong Bonds seminar

Register now for the next "Strong Bonds," an all-expense paid three-day, two-night couples training conference July 30 through Aug. 1 for 14 married couples.

The training will be held at the Harbor Inn Hotel, St. Michaels, Md.

To register, visit <https://www.strongbonds.org/>.

For more information, contact the APG Chaplains' Office, 410-278-4333.

Volunteers needed for Retiree Council

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retiree Council is being revitalized. The purpose of the council is "to provide the commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, installation command-

er, Fort George G. Meade, Md., and the U.S. Army an insight into the problems and issues expressed by retirees residing on APG and surrounding areas."

To help accomplish this, the APG Retiree Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the council. Interested parties should send an e-mail with contact information to: ricky.godbolt@us.army.mil or jatraino@aol.com.

CPR, AED classes available

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services is offering CPR and automated external defibrillator classes on APG.

Two classes will be held 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month.

In the Edgewood Area, classes will be held at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650 in the Osprey Room, on Aug. 20, Oct. 15 and Dec. 17.

In the Aberdeen Area, classes will be held at the Post Theater July 16, Sept. 17 and Nov. 19.

Class size will be limited to 30 participants and will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis. Pre-registration will be required.

For more information or to register, call Raymond Campbell, 410-306-0566, or e-mail Ray.Campbell@apg.army.mil.

Bio-Threat Agents Detection Conference

The Inter-Agency Steering Committee extends an invitation to attend the Third National Conference on Environmental Sampling and Detection for Bio-Threat Agents, Dec. 2 through 4, at the Las Vegas Hilton, located at 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nev.

The Department of Defense's Chemical Biological Medical Systems,

Joint Project Manager for Biological Defense, and Technical Support Working Group, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Homeland Security have organized the conference to create a forum for dialogue between government, industry, academia, and first responders to address critical issues in environmental sampling and biological detection.

Attendees are invited to submit an abstract for oral and poster presentations. This is an excellent opportunity to share research with key decision-makers in the sampling and detection arenas.

To reserve a space, visit <http://www.lv Hilton.com/>.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.sampling-conference.com/>

Phone number for Wildlife and Marine changes

The new telephone number for the Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Office in the Edgewood Area is 410-436-6181.

Annual Army Science Conference December 2008

The 26th Army Science Conference will be held Dec. 1 through 4, at the JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes, Orlando, Fla., www.asc2008.com. The theme is Transformational Army Science and Technology-Harnessing Disruptive S&T for the Soldier. The conference agenda will focus on autonomous systems, biotechnology, immersive technology, nanotechnology, network science, neuro-science and quantum information science.

For more information, call Jayne Ashe, CMP, TMP Design Corpora-

tion, 757-357-4011 or fax 757-357-5108.

Education Center conducts in-process briefings

The APG Education Center, located in building 4305, second floor, room 213-B, will conduct monthly in-process briefings for Soldiers within their first 30 days of assignment to APG.

The briefings take place 8 to 9 a.m. on the last Monday of each month and are designed to inform Soldiers, enlisted and officers, of programs and services available to meet the requirements of their educational goals and plans. The briefing also will provide information to help establish or recertify the Soldier's long/short-term education goals.

For more information, call Tressie Stout, 410-306-2042.

No emergency service at KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is not equipped or staffed to provide emergency medical care. Neither the Aberdeen Area nor Edgewood Area clinics should be considered suitable destinations to receive healthcare for a medical emergency.

For emergencies, call 911. APG's EMS service is manned with paramedic-level emergency medical technicians and state-of-the-art equipment to provide emergency care while en route to local hospitals.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)

Senior Service College applications due by August

Story by
DOROTHY C. SMITH
IMCOM

Headquarters Installation Management Command is accepting civilian nominations through Aug. 1 for senior service college sessions in academic year 2009-2010.

Applicants must submit original application packages and one copy through command channels to IMCOM's Human Resources Workforce Development Division. Endorsements by garrison commanders and IMCOM region directors must be included in the packages. Endorsements must be tailored to the SSCs generally rather than specifically to a particular program.

IMCOM will convene a

panel to rank nominations. Nominations and ranking will be reviewed by the senior executive leadership before submitting the prioritized list to the Department of the Army.

Senior service colleges include the Army War College, AWC Distance Education Course, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Naval War College, and National War College.

Information about each of the academic year 2009-2010 SSC programs, including program dates, descriptions, eligibility and funding requirements, application procedures and a link to the application packages, will be available for review in Army ACT-EDS Training Catalog, Chapter 2 "Senior Service College Programs" after Army releases the informa-

tion. Once released, information will be available at <http://cpol.army.mil/library/train/catalog/toc.html>.

Once DA publishes academic year 2009 to 2010 nomination criteria and application requirements, IMCOM Workforce Development personnel will work with IMCOM candidates to make any necessary adjustments.

Based on last year's eligibility criteria, it is expected that SSCs will be open to employees who are at Pay Band 3 (previously grades GS-14 and GS-15) and NF-5 levels who meet specific requirements.

Requirements include three years of consecutive service on a permanent appointment and have or are able to obtain a top

secret security clearance, and who have been identified by their organization as being on the track for executive-level service.

General information regarding the SSC program, including applicants' and supervisors' responsibilities, administrative procedures following selection, post-graduation assignment requirements, and links to the specific programs, can be found at <http://www.cpol.army.mil/library/train/catalog/sitemap.html>.

For more information, contact Dorothy C. Smith, DSN 332-1668/5461, 703-602-1668/5461, or e-mail Dorothy.Smith@hqda.army.mil or Mary Weiss, DSN 332-7447, 703-602-7447, or e-mail Mary.Weiss@hqda.army.mil.

End of year guidance for obtaining Army tuition assistance

APG Education Center

With the approach of a new fiscal year and to prepare for year-end closeout, the following guidance is provided concerning use of end-of-year Army tuition assistance for eligible active duty Soldiers.

All course enrollments with start dates through Sept. 30 must be requested in GoArmyEd on or before midnight, Eastern Standard Time Sept. 25. Attempts to enroll in courses after midnight will not be approved. This enrollment cut-off is necessary to allow for the fiscal year "change-over." This message is to provide advanced notification on the field to minimize the impact of the enrollment cut-off supporting end of fiscal year change-over.

The end of year fiscal cut-off has no impact on registration for courses starting Oct. 1 or later (FY 09 enrollments). As always, FY 09 enrollments are subject to availability of funds.

For more information, contact Tressie Stout, education services specialist at the Army Education Center, 410-306-2042.



Need language? DLIFLC activates free online language materials shopping cart

DLIFLC

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center activated its new Language Materials Distribution System Web site July

1, making available hundreds of language survival kits and other materials free of charge to deploying service members. To view the shopping cart, go to: <https://lmds.dliflc.edu>.

The Web site offers Language Survival Kits - pocket size booklets with audio CDs, in over 30 languages, ranging in topics from public affairs, cordon and search, to medical terminology.

DLIFLC also offers new Headstart language DVD programs that use cutting-edge technology and computer animation to teach 80-hours of self-paced lessons and are designed to teach survival phrases in Iraqi Arabic, and Afghan Dari and Pashto.

Language materials can be viewed, downloaded, and ordered at www.dliflc.edu under the 'Products' tab. Users must register and receive DLIFLC account approval before placing an order. Some products are not available for download to the general public.

For more information, call Maj. Scott Swanson, 831-242 5376, or e-mail scott.t.swanson@us.army.mil.



Vacation Bible School begins Aug. 4; register now

The last chance for pre-registration for APG Vacation Bible School for all faiths is fast approaching.

VBS is for all children of military and Department of Defense civilian Families ages 5 through grade 6, 6 to 8:45 p.m., Aug. 4 through 8 at Main Post Chapel.

The theme is "Avalanche Ranch," an exciting Bible program with music, crafts, Bible dramas, theater and delicious snacks.

A picnic for all VBS participants and Families is scheduled for 5:15 p.m., Aug. 8 followed by the regular VBS program. Parents are asked to donate small canned or bottled beverages for snack time during the week. The beverages can be dropped off at the Chapel any time from now until the first day of VBS. There is no other cost for the week-long VBS program.

Special Note: The final training meeting for all adult and teen volunteers is 6:30 p.m., July 28, at Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall.

9th AML

From front page

greatest honor the Army can bestow upon one of its officers,” Blanchard said. “And in my particular field, opportunities to command are few and far between.”

Maul told Blanchard he would succeed by remembering the philosophy of the AML, “a team of teams – ready, relevant and reliable.”

Prior to the ceremony, Maul awarded Craft the Legion of Merit and presented Craft’s spouse, Janice, with the 44th Medical Command Certificate of Appreciation.

Col. Terrell W. Blanchard

Blanchard was born and raised in Oklahoma City, Okla., and is an alumnus of Oklahoma State University where he received a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry in 1983 and a doctorate of veterinary medicine in 1987.

His military assignments include Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Rota Naval Station in Spain; and SHAPE in Belgium. Since 2007, Blanchard has served as Chair of the Department at the Armed Forces Insti-



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON, APG NEWS
Col. Terrell W. Blanchard, incoming commander of the 9th Area Medical Laboratory, left, accepts the unit colors from Col. Ronald A. Maul, commander of the 44th Medical Command, center, as outgoing commander Col. David W. Craft, right, looks on during the change of command ceremony at McBride Parade Field July 15.

tute of Pathology and as the deputy director (Army) of the AFIP.

Blanchard’s awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters); the Army Commendation Medal (with one oak leaf cluster) and the

Army Achievement Medal (with one leaf cluster).

Blanchard and wife Karen Blanchard, DVM have two daughters, Sarah and Katie.

Ortiz

From front page

Army Medical Department Activity, gave a few remarks.

“There are no words that can accurately describe the sacrifice that she made,” she said. “Our nation will forever be indebted.”

Col. William Rice, commander of KUSAHC also gave a few remarks.

“This training facility is very fitting for a Soldier and person that was Captain Ortiz. As I look into the crowd I can see some healing in the organization but I can see some pain resides. I am proud she will be memorialized this way,” he said.

Rice told attendees Ortiz volunteered to be deployed, and that at first he was hesitant to sign the paperwork to let her go because she was a good nurse, but he later realized that she felt a calling to serve her country in Iraq.

“She went so that we can have life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” he said. “She is a true patriot, and a great American. [Captain Ortiz], it was an honor to have worked with you. I am honored by your courage.”

After his remarks, Rice and Daugherty unveiled an original oil painting which will go in the training center. The painting depicts Ortiz at work taking care of a child in her arms.

Colon gave the benediction at the end of the service.

“May all that enter the training center be sustained by the holy values of Captain Maria Ortiz,” he said.

After the dedication guests ate refreshments and socialized in the Capt. Maria I. Ortiz Training Center.

“I thought that the dedication was very touching and moving; it was excellent,” said Susan Russell, secretary to the deputy commander of Clinical Services.

Maj. Shannon Jones, the chief nurse of KUSAHC, who was Ortiz’ supervisor said, “She was a very nice person and very respectful. She was dedicated and professional. She seemed happy all the time,

always smiling. She was very dedicated to being a nurse. She volunteered to be deployed because she felt like she wanted to be where she was needed.”

About the painting

The painting was created by Kaziah Hancock, a painter who founded Project Compassion, an organization that provides one original, gallery-quality 18 x 24 oil portrait of American military casualties since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, to the Soldier’s next of kin.

Project Compassion’s mission is “to heal the Soldier’s loved ones through our gift of art.” To learn more about Project Compassion, go to www.heropaintings.com.

Maria Ines Ortiz Memorial Scholarship Fund established

The purpose of the Maria Ines Ortiz Memorial Scholarship fund is to honor the life Ortiz by providing scholarships for residents of Harford County, Md.

The scholarship is awarded to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence, a passion for learning, and has a deep, genuine interest and desire to care for others.

A qualified applicant is an individual who at the time of application is:

- A high school senior accepted to a college or university or currently a freshman, sophomore, or junior at a college or university.
- Has a minimum cumulative grade

point average of 2.8 out of 4 points or equivalent and

- Who has declared an intent to earn a degree in nursing.

A recipient maintaining a grade point average of at least 2.8 each semester and enrolled in a nursing program may apply for continuing support.

The scholarship will be for qualified expenses: tuition and fees and course-related expenses such as books, supplies and equipment.

For more information, contact the Community Foundation of Harford County, 410-638-2013 or P.O. Box 612, Bel Air, Md. 21014.

Integration

From front page

Human Resources, G-1, said that to be successful, today’s young men and women need to see a force that they can identify with.

“They must see a diverse Army that reflects who they are, and an environment that affords them the opportunity to achieve all and more of what they aspire to be; and exemplifies the richness and diversity of our country,” McLaurin said.

Army Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Preston said that the U.S. Army is the greatest in the world because it reflects the faces of American society.

“You learn early on that people can either be successful or not based on their abilities, willingness to make personal sacri-

fices and their commitment to the team,” Preston said.

Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, director of the Army Diversity Task Force, said that diversity is not an ends, but a means by which the Army grows stronger.

“If the Army is going to remain the employer of choice, our human capital strategy must be all-inclusive,” Pinckney said. “We cannot be complacent in our diversity-management strategy. We must continue to lead, not only our sister services and the Department of Defense, but also the nation in our efforts to attract and maintain the best fighting force this nation has to offer. The Army has always taken the lead in inclusive efforts. Now is the time to take this to a different level.”

Prelude to integration

In the 1940s, attitudes about

race were changing and the interests of the African American community were being championed by the press, political lobbyists and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The selective service act of 1940 provided that any person between the ages of 18 and 35; regardless of race, creed or color; shall be afforded the opportunity to enlist. It did not call for integration in units.

Army leadership cited concerns about the fighting capabilities of desegregated units. Thus, in the peace that followed World War II, the Army rationalized that the policy of segregation, despite its inefficiencies, would preserve a more dependable fighting force.

After fighting in Korea broke out in 1950, all-black units experienced significant

personnel surpluses, while white units faced staggering battle losses. The only solution was to assign black Soldiers to undermanned units.

The Army soon saw that the performance of these integrated units was noteworthy and that the black Soldiers performed on par with white Soldiers.

On July 1, 1951, the Army approved the disbanding of the last all-black combat unit, the 24th Infantry Regiment.

By the end of 1951, the Army began to experience the benefits of an integrated force, including racial harmony.

The Soldiers who served in these newly integrated units spoke highly of the performance of all their comrades-in-arms, both black and white, and took those experiences home with them to power-up the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Chapel News

Religious education programs at APG Main Post Chapel

The chapel offers a myriad of religious education programs at APG - classes for children, youth, adults, married couples and singles. Examples include retreats, children’s church, sacramental programs, (Baptism, Eucharist, Penance, Confirmation), Bible studies, seasonal events such as “Hallelujah Har-

vest,” St. Patrick celebration, spiritual excursions, “Taste of Home” dinner for Soldiers, music festivals, revivals, Lenten and Advent programs, prayer groups, Catholic and Protestant Women of the Chapel, Protestant Men of the Chapel, and much more.

Visit the Chapel, building 2485, next

to the Child Development Center and across the street from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic to register any time of year.

For more information call 410- 278-2516/4333.

For Religious Education information e-mail gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Sabre Harper, 410-278-8963, or e-mail sabre.harper@usag.apg.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Donald Adamson
Neoma Amberman
Karen Blades
William Bond
Debra Bonsall (daughter has brain tumor)
Jeanie Bowman
Jane Calahan
Donna Cianelli
Joyce Clark
George Colletta

Barbara Crossley
John Daigle
Liesollette Dorsey
Wayne Doyle
Lisa Foust
Betty Genuardi
Hester Hayes
Jerome Hesck
William Horn
Sinclair Joe

Mollie Kilby
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Paul Kuwik
Glenn Kresge
Coby Lantry
Joyce Mauldin
Frantz Midy
Karen Milton
Cheryl Mitchell
Marie D. Nowak

Dorothy Nowak
Cindy Orwig
Adrienne Pearson
Michael Querns
Judith Ratledge
Carolyn Reedy
Reta Reynolds
Steven Sadler
Gloria Scott
Barbara Seker

Donna Sexton
Algie Shaw
Mark Shipman
Melvin Showell
Willie Stevenson
Angela A.Taylor
Carrie Theiss
Charles Young
Barbara Zenker



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Army 10-Miler—runners needed

The FMWR Community Recreation Division Sports Branch will sponsor two teams from APG to compete in the Army 10-Miler, Oct. 5, in Washington, D.C. Team participation is limited to active duty Army personnel assigned to APG.

For more information, call Ralph Cuomo, 410-278-3868, e-mail ralph.cuomo@us.army.mil or visit www.armytenmiler.com.

Dolphin Watch and Wildwood, N.J.

Come watch the playful dolphins of Cape May, Sept. 4. Enjoy a two-hour cruise with free coffee and danish. Finish the day off with a nostalgic stroll down the boardwalk. Have lunch and do a little shopping before heading back home. Cost is \$59 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation, dolphin watch and trip to Wildwood.

The bus will depart Best Western at 6:45 a.m. and return at approximately 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel

services, 410-278-4011 or visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/trips.html>.

QVC Studio Tour and King of Prussia shopping

Visit the QVC Studio, July 26. The QVC has become a popular destination for thousands of visitors. See how QVC products are sourced, tested and brought to life on air.

Best of all, King of Prussia is tax-free on all clothing and shoe purchases. This shopping trip is not one to be missed! The trip costs \$42 per person and includes round trip bus transportation and tour. The bus will depart the Edgewood Best Western at 9 a.m. and returns at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Cruisin' on the Atlantic and casino trip

Kick back and relax as passengers enjoy the morning sea breeze aboard a 65 foot yacht. Enjoy a one-hour narrative cruise along the Atlantic City shoreline then head out to the casinos. Everyone will receive a \$15 slot card and a buffet coupon. The cruise and casino trip will take

place Aug. 17. Cost is \$48 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart the Edgewood Best Western 7:50 a.m.

York County Fair (Grandparent's Day)

Treat the grandparents to a day of midway games, local and Amish food and fun. End the day at Cracker Barrel Sept. 7. Cost is \$37 per person. Bus departs Golden Ring Terminal at 9:10 a.m.

Contact FMWR Leisure Travel Services for more information at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, calling 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mailing mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Smart Start Your Business seminars

The ACS Employment Readiness Program in partnership with Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union and Harford Community College Small Business Development Center will sponsor a Smart Start Your Business seminar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 30, at ACS classroom building 2754. This free 90-minute ori-

entation program provides an overview of how to start a business, the skills and duties of a successful entrepreneur and how to write a strategic business plan.

For more information or to RSVP, call 410-278-9669.

Summer fitness programs

The Aberdeen Area Fitness Center in building 320 is offering lunchtime and evening fitness sessions through Aug. 30.

Lunchtime sessions, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., will be Step and Weighted Bar on Mondays and Strength and Hand Weights on Wednesdays.

Twice weekly on Monday and Wednesday take Step With Joe, 5 to 6 p.m.

Cost is \$44 per session or \$4 per class. At least 12 registrations are needed

to hold a session.

For more information, call 410-278-9725 or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Adult kayak lessons

Outdoor Recreation will offer kayak lessons for adults, 5 to 7:30 p.m., July 25 at Skippers Point. Lessons cost \$30 per person. Kayaking lessons will teach the essential skills needed to be a knowledgeable kayaker.

For more information or to sign up, call Fawn Heitman, 410-278-4124.

Baltimore Orioles games

Purchase tickets for Orioles baseball at Camden Yards:

- Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m., Aug. 25
- Oakland Athletics, Sept. 7, TBD
- Cleveland Indians, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 9

• Toronto Blue Jays, Sept. 28, 1:35 p.m.

For more information on other Baltimore Orioles games or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

FMWR has scheduled several day trips to New York City – eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, seeing a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Nov. 15.

Cost is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. and will return 10 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or visit FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_Leisure_Travel@apg.army.mil.

Aberdeen & Edgewood Area swimming pools

Aberdeen Area Olympic Swimming Pool, building 3325

- Daily operation: thru Aug. 22
- Labor Day weekend: Aug. 30 thru Sept. 1
- Closes Monday, Sept. 1
- Daily operation schedule
- Child & Youth Service Day Camp: 9 to 11 a.m., thru Aug. 21
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Lap swim lane available during standard hours.

Weekend operation schedule:

Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Shore Swimming Pool, building 2031

Swimming lessons: thru Aug. 8. Levels 1-6, adult, parent/toddler; Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (To be determined by customer demand)

- Daily operation schedule: thru Aug. 17
- Open swim: noon to 5 p.m.

Weekend operation schedule:

Through Aug. 17, Saturday and Sunday

Open swim: 12 to 5 p.m.

Edgewood Area Bayside Swimming Pool, building E-4655

- Daily operation: thru Aug. 22
- Labor Day Weekend: Aug 30 thru Sept. 1

- Closes Monday, Sept. 1
- Daily operation schedule
- CYS Day Camp: 9 to 11 a.m. (thru Aug. 21)
- Open Swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Lap swim lane available during standard hours.

Weekend operation schedule

Open swim: 11:30 a.m. thru 7 p.m.

Pool pass fees - FY 08

Daily passes

Daily	.....	\$5
Under 5	.....	Free
Guest of eligible patron	.....	\$9
5 and under (guest)	.....	\$2
Active duty E1 - E4	.....	\$2
Lap swim	.....	\$2

30-day pass

Individual:

E1 - E4	.....	\$15
All others	.....	\$35

Family:

E1 - E4	.....	\$35
All others	.....	\$70

Season passes

Individual:

E1 - E4	.....	\$40
All others	.....	\$85

Family:

E1 - E4	.....	\$80
All Others	.....	\$175

Upcoming CWF events

Trip to Broadway

The Civilian Welfare Fund is offering a trip to New York City, Aug. 23, to see the Broadway show, "Spring Awakening," at 2 p.m. Do not miss this hot winner of eight 2007 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. There will be time to shop, sightsee and have lunch prior to the 2 p.m. show. The trip costs \$150 per person and includes round trip charter bus service and ticket for the show. The show contains adult content and is not appropriate for children.

For more information or for reservations, call Patti Harkins, 410-278-4603.

Trip to New York City

Join the Civilian Welfare Fund for a bus trip to New York City, July 26. Spend a day of leisure, with shopping and sightseeing. Cost per person is \$45 and includes round-trip charter bus transportation. A few seats are still available.

For more information or for reservations, call Patti Harkins at 410-278-4603.

The Course at APG



July 1 thru September 30, 2008

Save and Play the Golf Courses at Aberdeen Proving Ground:

Ruggles Golf Course: \$30
Exton Golf Course: \$20

Monday thru Friday (weekends after 2:30 p.m.) Includes greens fee with cart

****Must present coupon for special; coupon not valid with any other discount; cut here or go to www.apgmwr.com for coupon**

Eligible patrons are: active duty military, retirees, veterans, DoD civilians, APG contractors and Harford County residents.



For more information
call 410-278-4794
or 410-436-2213



www.apgmwr.com

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Children learn to cook healthy meals

A 'Kids in the Kitchen' program where children make themselves dinner and learn cooking basics is being held at Super Suppers, Route 40 in Havre de Grace, 1 and 5:30 p.m. for two hours each, Aug. 8. Cost is \$20 per student.

Taekwondo classes offered

Taekwondo promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning. Classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 15 through Oct. 8, and Oct. 20 through Nov. 12, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. (ages 6-11) \$65 per student and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (ages 12-18) \$75 per student.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants.

Open to all DoD ID card holder family members.

Driver's Ed

Driver's education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Monday thru Thursday, 6 to 9:15 p.m. (Classes are also available 2:30 to 5:45 p.m.) During the summer schedule classes will only be offered 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. There are no classes on federal holidays.

Classes are held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304, Aug. 4 thru 19. For more information about the Edgewood Area class, call 410-278-7571.

Class includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

Cost is \$295 per student. Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between 15.9 and 18 years of age. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

SAT preparation

Child and Youth Services will hold Scholastic Aptitude Test preparation classes, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 4 through 8, at CYS Administrative Offices, building 2752 Rodman Road for students in grades 9 through 12.

Students can be a step ahead for the SAT. Classes will assist students in sharpening the verbal skills needed for being successful when taking the SAT. The class also prepares students for the SAT math exam, covering basic math skills including algebra and geometry.

Classes cost \$170 per student and includes textbook and are open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

To register or to make an appointment, call the Central Registration Office, 410-278-7571/7479.

For more information, call 410-278-4589 or e-mail stacie.umbarger1@conus.army.mil.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of July 21

Special #1: Two hot dogs, curly fries, cookie and soda for \$6.95.

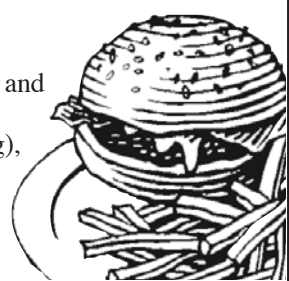
Special #2: Cheeseburger sub, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, french fries, cookie and soda for \$7.25

Week of July 28

Special #1: Six butterfly shrimp, french fries, coleslaw and soda for \$5.95.

Special #2: Nine wing dings or wing zings (no mixing), french fries, cookie and soda for \$5.95.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



July Well-Being meeting highlights changes at APG

Story by
STEVE ROCHETTE
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison leadership and organization representatives gathered to discuss the issues facing the installation during the Well-Being Council meeting July 17 at the Edgewood Chapel.

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, Garrison and deputy installation commander, began the meeting by stating that many of the changes talked about over the past several months are now taking place.

“We’re moving from the planning stage to the execution stage posturing for our 2012 vision,” Weissman said. “Lots of work is going on at the 715 gate and work is progressing very quickly; we’re hoping to have it finished by the March timeframe.”

Weissman encouraged the community to pay close attention to traffic patterns at the different gates due to the construction. He said construction and road improvements are progressing on Maryland Boulevard and Boothby Hill Road areas.

Weissman also reported several other projects are on schedule or in the planning process.

“The C4ISR project is going well and on schedule. [On July 10] an EUL [enhanced use lease] project building went up entirely in one day. It’s the first building and should be ready for occupancy in October.

“The Maryland Boulevard picnic area is still open and will remain open through the summer; however the new Shore Park work will begin hopefully in the next few weeks. We also have funding and approval for a new child development center in the Aberdeen Area. We expect work to begin in fiscal year 2009.

“The new Southside Grill

in Edgewood is near completion. Construction is finishing up, and we are looking at a soft opening in August with a grand opening in September,” Weissman said.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez mentioned beautification projects are occurring around the installation and will continue in different areas.

Tim McNamara, deputy Garrison commander, noted that the APG community will soon hear about Army Ready, the Army’s emergency preparedness campaign which will be publicized in September.

“We’re encouraging people to make their own personnel emergency preparedness plan. Please look for more information on this in the *APG News* and around post,” McNamara said.

KUSAHC

Lt. Col. James Nold, the newly assigned commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, introduced himself during the meeting.

“I’m aware of some of the issues and concerns of the community because some of them are similar at other clinics, especially pharmacy waiting times and appointment access,” Nold said. “I’m going to be looking at opportunities to improve the clinic.”

KUSAHC will hold Organization Day Aug. 1 and will be closing down at noon.

“I’m going to try and minimize the amount of time we will be closed on this particular day,” Nold said.

He added that KUSAHC is offering sports physicals for youths, which can be booked with TRICARE Online or over the telephone.

FMWR

Mike Lupacchino, the new director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, spoke about the goals he has for the office.

“We are looking at the FMWR facilities and ways in which we can enhance them,” Lupacchino said. “As the transition on the installation occurs, we need to keep pace and enhance our facilities and services.”

Weissman highlighted some of the FMWR facilities that are slated for improvement.

“The golf course project has already begun. We’ve started work on the golf clubhouse, specifically the exterior work and mechanical work to upgrade the air conditioning. The interior work will start in earnest in the September timeframe and be done by March.

“FMWR is also renovating the Bowling Center. We will completely renovate the lanes and add other activities to make it more of a bowling center rather than an alley,” Weissman said.

APG has also received funding to upgrade Hoyle Gymnasium. The power distribution system and locker rooms are scheduled for renovations.

Rodriguez noted that parts of the gym might be unavailable for several weeks due to this project.

Rodriguez also encouraged the community to use the post theatre.

“The theatre just reopened, and we really want to keep it going. We don’t want to close it so please support it,” he said.

Stacie Umbarger, director of the Schools of Knowledge Inspiration Exploration Skills program, noted the upcoming SAT Prep class for high school students. Classes will be held 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 4 through 8.

SKIES is also offering a ‘Kids in the Kitchen’ program where children make themselves dinner and learn cooking basics. This class will take place at 1 and 5:30 p.m. for two

hours each, Aug. 8.

Marilyn Howard of Army Community Service invited the APG community to attend the ACS birthday 11 a.m., July 24 at Maryland Boulevard Park; tickets are free. She said the event is always a lot of fun.

She also mentioned the Smart Start Business Seminar starts July 30 and runs through November.

One participant raised an issue about inconsistencies in practices at the pools concerning infants in diapers. FMWR will look into this and restate the policy for pool users.

DIO

Weissman reported that APG has partnered with Picerne Military Housing for the Residential Community Initiative.

“We’re proud of this, and we think they’re a very good partner. We had our kickoff meeting last month and they’re going to do a focus group all day August 12 at Top of the Bay,” Weissman said.

Pat Hector of DIO said Families will have the opportunity to express what they would like to see in housing during the focus group. Those interested in attending the focus group sessions Aug. 12, should call Hector, 410-306-2010. *(There is an article on the front page about the focus group.)*

Rodriguez encouraged as many to attend the focus group as possible.

“One good thing about RCI is it puts pressure on the developer to provide quarters Soldiers want to live in. They have a financial incentive so it gives us power to get things done,” Rodriguez said.

Several attendees mentioned slow turn around times on housing maintenance orders.

Weissman responded, stating leadership has prioritized certain orders.

“Army Family housing is

number one and the number two priority is Soldier barracks. We’ve also changed air conditioning orders to priority one. Priority three orders may take longer, but it’s a conscience decision we’ve made to help Soldiers and Families,” she said.

Hector stated that the summer surge is going well to date.

“So far, we’ve done fifty five housing assignments and the others will be running on schedule,” she said.

DLES

Robert Krauer, director of Law Enforcement and Security, invited the APG community to a block party 5 to 8 p.m., Aug. 5. In conjunction with National Night Out, DLES is throwing the event to educate the community about emergency preparedness, law enforcement, safety and crime prevention. DLES plans to offer hot dogs, hamburgers and will be distributing book marks and other informational material suitable for children.

“We really would like to see all of our Families join us. We want the community to get together and have fun and learn at the same time. McGruff and Chopper the crime stopper will be there along with the S.W.A.T, Marine and Wildlife and the Fire Department,” Krauer said.

Krauer also announced DLES has identified the offenders related to the thefts in Patriot Village.

Krauer mentioned that construction will soon begin at the Edgewood Area Route 24 gate.

An attendee brought up confusion about the reflective safety belt policy at APG.

Krauer clarified some common sense rules for joggers and walkers to walk/jog facing traffic and to yield the right of way if there is no sidewalk.

Weissman also responded, stating that enforcement is left to DLES (\$50 ticket for not wearing a reflective belt), but the policy is in the best interest of the installation community. For more information, call the Installation Safety Office.

“The safety and security of folks who live and work here is our number one priority and charter. We don’t want to wait until after someone gets injured before we take action especially with the increase in traffic and construction around the installation,” Weissman said.

APG News will publish an article in the near future to clarify the policy.

Chapel

Gerri Merkel of Chapel Services spoke of two opportunities.

“Vacation Bible School is going to be held August 4 to 8 from 6 to 8:45 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel. It’s a great chance for kids to learn about faith and scripture while meeting new friends,” she said.

Chapel Services also offers Strong Bond retreats for strengthening Families. For more information, contact the main post chapel, 410-278-4333.

Miscellaneous

Maj. Mathieu Petraitis from the Voting Assistance Office said he is working with the Directorate of Information Management to develop a voting link on the APG Web site that will provide information about voting policy and procedures for different states. Information should be up and running in the next several weeks, but in the meantime, call his office, 410-278-3000, with any questions pertaining to voting and the elections.

The next Well-Being Council meeting will be 9:30 a.m., Aug. 21, at the Aberdeen Area Chapel.

DeBerry

From page 2

was a farmer and a teacher -- his high school principal -- and the intellectual and physical expectations he placed on DeBerry were great.

“My dad was a teacher who had a large farm and not enough kids to work it,” DeBerry explained. “We worked very hard.

“We had some difficulties there, with mom and dad, nothing that they didn’t overcome. It helped us see that if you really apply yourself no matter where you’re at, no matter what kind of environment you’re in, persistence and education and hard work will get recognized, just because you keep plugging at it, if you don’t give up, if you show some character, if you’re smart,” DeBerry said, rolling through lessons learned long ago.

“Looking back,” he said, smiling a satisfied smile, “everything has been pretty easy since.

“My dad wanted to send me off to flight school. He wanted me to be a pilot and I didn’t want to fly -- but I didn’t want to stay on that farm neither!”

DeBerry enlisted when others around him were being drafted into service. He joined with a deliberation that continued to propel him through the years.

DeBerry was asked what sticks out in his career.

“The only thing that really sticks with me is when we got back from Vietnam, we didn’t have the press we have now, and we really thought that America loved us. So the first rude awakening for me was to come back from Vietnam -- vertical instead of horizontal -- and being met at the airport by a bunch of protesters.

“It was unbelievable,” he said. “I changed my whole outlook on the Army, the American people, politics.”

Asked if he harbored any resentment, he said, “Resentment never entered my mind. I really wanted to resent it, but the overwhelming thought I had was that

protesting was driven by the fact that they hadn’t been there and done that. Every time I thought about it, the foremost thought in my mind is that they don’t know what I know and never been where I’ve been.

“That helped me get over that, because there’s no way they can know the full story--because I didn’t know the full story,” he said. “I got back and started reading some of the press and said, ‘Wow! If I had been bombarded with that and had not been the kid from the Family that I had, I would’ve had something to say about it myself.’

“So I forgave [the protesters] for that, because my intent was -- and it was even more important -- that I stay onboard to show these people that it’s not quite like you think it is.”

After applying to become a warrant officer three times, DeBerry was selected in 1981, an E-7 with 13 years in service.

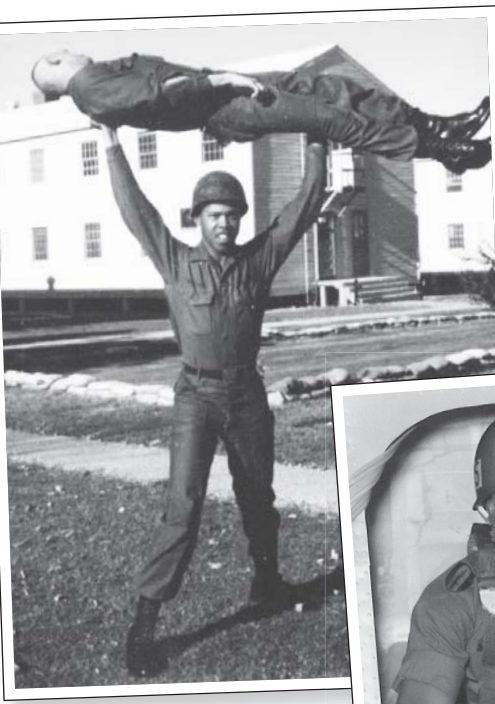
“Back in those days if you didn’t have fourteen to sixteen years in they didn’t even want to talk to you. It was a direct appointment. You didn’t go to school first before becoming a warrant,” DeBerry explained.

“I had gotten promoted real fast, below the zone, and I couldn’t see any upward mobility [as an enlisted]. And I liked working the type of jobs warrant officers work, more than I did those roles of an NCO [noncommissioned officer].”

Over the years, DeBerry became a father-figure to many Soldiers, which is reflected when an officer says they were “raised by warrant officers.”

“First off, it really feels good when you hear them say they were raised by warrant officers,” DeBerry said. “I think the entire population of ordnance warrant officers has the ability to -- rather than shove it down your throat -- say, ‘Come here lieutenant; let me show you something. Come here captain; let me show you something.’

“It makes so much sense because we’re not telling them in an institutional environment, showing them on paper, we’re



How long is 40 years of service?

- 485 MONTHS
- 2080 WEEKS
- 349,384 HOURS
- 20,963,040 MINUTES

walking them through it. Anybody who wants to be raised, they don’t want you to carry them. They want you to show them how to do it on their own, especially in the Army.

“On two occasions I had the same battalion commander that was my company commander. In instances like that, you get to understand not only whether you raised them, but whether you raised them right.

“And you get better and better at it, critiquing yourself and watching what you say and what you do. They are watching you. They’re not just documenting what you’re saying. They’re documenting what you’re doing.

“We give away things in our mannerisms, and that’s important for Army folks. Imagine getting ready to go into battle and the guy that’s supposed to lead you is shaking like a leaf. Somebody has to step up. I saw some of that, and I wanted to believe in that guy. But it was that master sergeant, or that platoon sergeant -- somebody else -- saying,



Photos courtesy of CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5 HAROLD L. DEBERRY

‘Look -- We’re gonna be all right. Here’s what we’re gonna do.’ And you needed to believe that, too! It’s what gives you that burst of confidence and knowledge that, ‘Hey, we’re gonna get through this all right.’”

Relocating to the Hunstville, Ala., area, DeBerry said fishing was something he would be willing to do. But he continues to have personal aspirations.

“What I want to do is teach at a community college,” he said. “I’m into physiological psychology and the physics of learning. That interests me more than anything I’ve ever done. When I was working on my degree in workforce education and development, specializing in curriculum development, it was heavy on the psychology of learning, how the mind works. It’s real interesting to me.”

So, it seems the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.

“Growing up in a Family with parents as teachers, I wanted to do something completely different. But what I found is that I

have a knack for teaching. It does me a lot of good to see the light come on in students’ eyes and minds. It drives me more than anything that I could possibly do, other than the Army.”

Boles once asked DeBerry what kept him in the Army, what kept him going.

“It’s the extended Family of Soldiers who share the same common goals and have the opportunity to do something, be part of something that may be recorded in the history books rather than the local newspaper,” he said. “And what I call the ‘Wow Factor’ -- going home at the end of the day with a real sense of accomplishment.

“Today’s Soldiers are in the Army because they want to be,” DeBerry said. “They look for every opportunity to make their leaders, their Army and their nation say ‘Wow!’”

As those fortunate enough to have “stacked rifles,” DeBerry will tell you, there is only one appropriate accolade...

“Wow!”

FEB

From front page

FEB Gold award winners
Category 2a-Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Science and Program Support

Dana Blankenbiller, ATC
Blankenbiller is a mechanical engineer in the Survivability/Lethality Directorate of ATC. After serving nine months in Iraq with U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Forward Assessment Teams, Blankenbiller returned home to coordinate efforts with his brother Douglas who was still serving in Iraq, to field an armor solution against an emerging and lethal type of improvised explosive device, the explosively formed penetrator. Within two months the Army had a viable armor solution tested and Blankenship led a team of engineers, machinists and welders in the design, integration and production of 50 kits that were shipped to theater within three months after the project was initiated. His efforts have saved lives and better prepared the Army and Marine Corps for the battlefield.

Category 2b: Outstanding Professional (Administrative management and specialist)

Douglas C. Blankenbiller, ATC
Blankenbiller is a mechanical engineer with the Survivability/Lethality Directorate of ATC. He voluntarily served eleven months in Iraq addressing both vehicle survivability issues; the rise of injuries being incurred on U.S. troops due to IEDs and EFPs and consistently provided critical information and feedback between the theater commander and his command to make near real time decisions on armor and survivability solutions that could be rapidly tested and deployed. These solutions provided enhanced protection to the Warfighters and systems operating in Iraq. Blankenbiller’s efforts helped save the lives of many Soldiers and Marines.

Category 3a: Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support

Brian K. Berry, ATC
Berry is an engineering technician within ATC’s Military Environmental Technology Demonstration Center serving as a test officer and range complex manager. As a test officer he leads multiple homeland defense and combat vehicle test and evaluation projects. The combat vehicle armor programs, for example, include expedients armor evaluations, IED susceptibility and mine vulnerability tests. In addition, Berry supported the DoD priority acquisition programs: the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected System and Expedient Armor programs. As a range complex manager he met time requirements in developing new range facilities to meet mine underbody, speed bump and EFP test facility needs. Berry’s contributions can be measured in the time, dollars and Warfighter lives that have and will be saved through his efforts.

He said the award was an honor and one of the highlights of his career. “I would like to thank the crew at Range 18, from the gun crew personnel to the test directors, who served with me on this challenging path,” Berry said. “They are men and women who never wavered in the fight against terrorism ... and protecting our troops and the American way of life.” He expressed his thanks to co-workers Mark Hasseler, and Dana Blankenbiller, with special thanks to branch chief Bill Hold and division chief Dennis Teefy, “who believed in my abilities enough to give me a chance to contribute to one of the most rewarding test program I have ever worked on.”

Category 3b: Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative/Management Analyst

Melissa G. Uncangco, AMSAA
With the abrupt retirement of AMSAA’s two human resources analysts, Uncangco, the AMSAA training officer, had to learn as much as possible as quickly as possible. She integrated a new HR analyst, renegotiated a new organizational support contract, served as the billing officer for the government purchase card and continued her role as management controls administrator, all without a mentor or on-the-job training. In addition, she continued as training officer reporting training statistics and introducing the new Civilian Education System. She worked at a level well above her grade and the normal expectations of her position so that the mission of the organization – the critical analyses required to ensure Soldiers in the field have the best equipment possible for executing their mission and for surviving the dangers of conflict – would continue with no personnel barriers or interruptions. Uncangco said that she was “very surprised and honored to be recognized,” for the award. She thanked supervisors and co-workers for their mentorship and support. “Without them I would not have been able to complete my workload,” Uncangco said. “Team effort really goes a long way.” She also thanked her husband, John, and the Warfighters who inspire her dedication. “They contribute to my focus of striving to do well for the safety of our country during this time of war,” she said.

Category 4a: Outstanding Administrative Assistance/Management Assistant

Tarasa R. Miller, ARL
Miller is a program support assistant with the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate. Her personal efforts have made a significant impact on the timely delivery of reports and data on critical programs that involve ongoing operations, the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, the Office of Naval Research, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the Army research missions. The enormity of the scientific and technical productivity of the branch, which increased more than 50 percent in the past two years, was greatly enabled by Miller’s specialized experience as a project assistant. Miller’s support work enabled the undertaking of nearly \$10 million in new technical work. She has undertaken self-development initiatives to further contribute to her branch and due to her “can do” attitude, she took on the task of personally performing high-performance computing calculations to establish and populate an electronic database of energetic materials for mission and customer research programs. Miller is now a program specialist with another branch. She said she was motivated by her supervisor who encouraged self improvement among staff members. “I felt very blessed and honored, and winning was even more special,” Miller said. She said she took along her 15-year old daughter, Claudia, who was very excited [to be at the awards luncheon]. She thanked Dr. Brad Forch, the branch chief who nominated her. “There are so many others to thank. It was just a very special branch,” she said.

Category 8a: Volunteer Service-Individual Award
Joshua A. Williams, ATC
Williams is an engineer technician with ATC who is being recognized for his volunteer service as a firefighter for the Community Fire Company of Rising Sun. His responsibilities include training new and current members, assisting with community fire prevention and safety activities and serving as a fireman and emergency medical technician. He also is a field instructor for the University of Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and is responsible for training new students in various emergency service programs. Williams dedicates 30 to 40 hours a week in the firehouse and during the past year was involved in almost 200 responses and more than 60 emergency medical incidents. His special skills and training make him a great asset to his community and to the ATC workplace. Williams said that it was nice to see that his service to the community as well as his efforts on the job have not gone unnoticed. He thanked his boss, John Kopczynski, and director Charles Valz with providing him “the direction needed to succeed here at ATC,” and his parents who he said encouraged him to help others. “Being a volunteer captain in my firehouse is something I would do even if there was no recognition,” William said. “Now that [I’m being] recognized for my service, it proves true what my father always said, ‘do your best because you just never know who is watching.’”

Category 8b: Volunteer Service – Group Award

AMSAA Edgewood High School Business Partnership
The AMSAA Business Partnership is a male mentoring program for African American male students at Edgewood High School. The mentors are African American civilian male employees from AMSAA and the U.S. Army Evaluation Center. This group of engineers, mathematicians and operations research analysts unselfishly volunteer their non-duty hours along with authorized time off to mentor young men. In existence since 1992, the program is designed to encourage, inspire and support students academically and prepare them for life after high school. The group regularly invites guest speakers in career fields such as science, engineering, law and business, takes field trips and provides individual tutoring. Through a variety of efforts, the group has provided the students of Edgewood High School with excellent male role models and support to assist them educationally and developmentally. They should be commended for devoting time, effort and finances toward the betterment of these youths and their community. Members recognized from AAMSA were: George Alexander, Johnny Graham, Henderson Mitchell, Bernard Watkins, Carl Davis, Eric Johnson, Chuck Hughes, Tony Harris, Sinclair Joe, Brian Wilder, Ronald Prescott and Kevin Dobson; and from AEC: David White, Michael Jones, Aaron Culver and William Elder. Speaking on behalf of the groups, Johnny Graham, an operations research analyst team leader, said that they were “honored and humbled by the award.” “We are honored because this award means that our peers recognize the significance and importance of our voluntary efforts,” Graham said. “We are humbled because we feel that we are giving back what we owe to these young men [and that] the joy and satisfaction we gain from working with [them] is enough of a reward.” Graham thanked the AMSAA and AEC leaders who supported the mentoring program, Claudia Scondion, EHS facilitator, “and the young men who allowed us to become a part of their lives.”

Category 9-Distinguished Public Service Center
Brett Christy, AMSAA
During his more than 25 years with AMSAA, Christy has been instrumental in laying the foundation for what has become the Army’s premier data collection and analysis program. He was on the ground floor in developing the Army’s Sample Data Collection and Analysis program. His enhancements paved the way for the program to become a multi-million dollar effort which supports the Soldier to this day. These capabilities provide increased readiness, reduced operating and support costs and improved reliability. The program is now active at 27 Army installations around the world including Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition, Christy has volunteered with his local fire department for more than 20 years. More than once he put himself in harms way to ensure the safety of his neighbors. He and his wife regularly sponsor minor league baseball athletes during

the Cal Ripken World Series, and he coaches in the Havre de Grace Little League. He also has participated in career day activities in local schools. While setting the example in his community, Christy has enhanced his organization, enabling it to provide critical support to deployed Soldiers. **Category 10b-Rookie Employee of the Year – Technical, Scientific and Program Support**
Eric Klier, ARL
The U.S. Army has an interest in developing replacement materiel for depleted uranium used in the penetrators of currently fielded kinetic energy tank ammunition. Despite its unsurpassed performance, DU has environmental and political consequences that are driving the need for an alternative material. While DoD is aware of the importance of eliminating the use of DU, DoD’s priority is to safeguard Warfighters by providing them with the most superior munitions technologically available. Decades of efforts to produce a process that could lead to a suitable replacement for DU have been unsuccessful until a recent breakthrough due to the work of Klier. His research discoveries have a high probability of resulting in a full-scale kinetic energy penetrator that behaves better than conventional DU. Thus, Klier’s discoveries associated with the processing of nano-structured, fully dense bulk tungsten material, may lead to increased lethality of ammunition systems used by deployed service members and at the same time eliminate the environmental and political ramifications associated with the use of DU. **Category 10c – Rookie Employee of the Year, Trades and Crafts**
Donald L. Mathis
Mathis is a facility operations specialist assigned to MRICD. He is responsible for the design and implementation of the pressure-reducing valve station which pneumatically controls dampers on the chemical, biological and radiation filtration exhaust systems that support the chemical surety area. In the event of a digital controls failure, this station will assume control and provide researchers enough time to evacuate safely. Through his diligence and hard work, Mathis has ensured the institute’s continued accreditation by the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care and to the institute’s Chemical Surety program requirements as dictated by Department of Defense. In addition, he has shown remarkable initiative and technical skills by eliminating antiquated and abandoned mechanical controls and equipment in an effort to clean up the facilities after years of neglect. He saved the government thousands of dollars in outside contracted repair costs while steadily improving the reliability and operation of the mechanical digital control system that support the research labs and vivarium areas. The success of the institute’s mission is greatly enhanced due to his exemplary contributions.

Award winners and organizations

Category 1a-Outstanding Supervisor, GS13 and above
Silver
• Randall J. Cerar, U.S. Army Environmental Command, or USAEC
• Richard S. Coby, Program Manager Future Combat Systems Combined Test Organization
• Charles G. Hurst, MRICD
• Steven Kratzmeier, AMSAA
Bronze
• Frank J. Batelka, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command
• Raymond G. Fontaine, DTC
• Teresa M. Gustafson, ECBC
• Dr. Bruce Jones, CHPPM
• Steven A. McWilliams, OMMS
• Wayne Paterson, U.S. Army Evaluation Center or AEC
• John J. Philistine, ATC
• Mark VanLandingham, ARL
Category 1b-Outstanding Supervisor, GS12 and below
Silver
• Gregory L. Mullins, OMMS
• Lorraine M. Wilkerson, DTC
Bronze
• Betty Genuardi, ATC
Category 1c-Outstanding Supervisor, Trades and Crafts
Silver
• Sgt. Maj. Chancey L. Alder-

man III, OMMS
Category 2a-Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support
Silver
• Victor Champagne, ARL
• Craig L. Turner, DTC
Bronze
• Michael D. Ackerman, AEC
• Lee F. Blankenbiller, AMSAA
• Douglas M. Cerasoli, MRICD
• Michael J. Cushing, AEC
• George J. Noya, ECBC
• William Payson, OMMS
Category 2b-Outstanding Professional (Administrative Management and Specialist)
Silver
• Deborah J. Austin, CHPPM
• Frank G. Whitehead, DTC
Bronze
• Carl Y. Edwards, RDECOM
• James A. Townsend, OMMS
• Sandra J. Weis, AEC
Category 3a-Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support
Silver
• Brian K. Berry, ATC
• Riyoji Funai, DTC
• Rex A. Hall, ARL
• Christina P. Thompkins,

MRICD
Bronze
• Kristin Carven, AEC
• Ella Elaine Hatchak, RDECOM
• Gregory L. Williams, OMMS
Category 3b-Outstanding Para=Professional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative/Management Analyst
Silver
• Vicki L. Brinkman, ATC
Bronze
• Donna J. Benjamin, DTC
• Susan H. Gooch, RDECOM
• Rosalie J. Holland, MRICD
• Yvonne Phillips, OMMS
• Alice Surette, IMCOM, APG
Category 4a-Outstanding Administrative Assistance/Management Assistant
Silver
• Kimberly E. Sappington, RDECOM
• Bernadette M. Webster, AMSAA
• Patricia L. West, MRICD
Bronze
• Sgt. 1st Class Clifford M. Bell, OMMS
• Deiana Christley, AEC
• Shariese L. Demby, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency
• Angela D. Fritzsching, DTC
Category 4d-Outstanding Administrative Work Group or Team

Silver
• Heather A. Haywood and Rebecca L. Setters,
• Ballistics and NBC Division Administrative Support Team, ARL
Bronze
• Howard Backhaus; Paulette Cantos; Brian Clayson; Jeff Dean; Randy Miller; Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jeffrey Shaver; and Chief Warrant Officer 5 Dennis Walker, BRAC Action Officer Work Group, OMMS
Category 5-Outstanding Trades and Crafts (Non-Supervisory)
Silver
• Richard P. Holman, ATC
Bronze
• Shaun P. Haskell, OMMS
• Kevin Webb, MRICD
Category 6-Workforce Diversity/Equal Employment Opportunity Service
Bronze
• Thomas J. Stadterman, AMSAA
Category 7a-Heroism, Individual Heroic Act
Silver
• Thomas R. Masino, DTC
Bronze
• Earl E. Floran Jr., IMCOM, APG
Category 7b-Heroism, Group Act

Silver
• Scott M. Kostowski and Glenn H. Sheckells, DLES
Category 8a-Volunteer Service, Individual Award
Silver
• Lawrence W. Burton, ARL
Bronze
• Offie E. Clark III, MRICD
• Paul A. Kuwik, AMSAA
• Erin E. McCormack, CHPPM
• Cathy N. Pritts, DTC
• Joel Wheaton, Detachment 1, 361st Training Squadron, USAF Detachment
Category 9-Distinguished Public Service Career
Silver
• Ronald A. Weiss, ARL
Bronze
• James F. Stewart, DTC
Category 10b-Rookie Employee of the Year, Technical, Scientific and Program Support
Silver
• Sara L. Campbell, AEC
• Emily LaFiandra, CHPPM
Bronze
• Michael Booth-Neades, AMSAA
• Nancy S. Natoli, AEC
• Laura Frances Starkey, ECBC
• Lloyd J. Wallace, MRICD
• Brian J. Wise, ATC

Eye on technology: Shadow® 200 supports the Warfighter

Story by
STEVE ROCHETTE
APG News

Unmanned Aerial Systems have become the ‘eyes of the commander’ in the skies of Iraq, providing key situational awareness.

At any given time, numerous unmanned aerial aircraft patrol the sky while operators gather intelligence from ground control stations.

Where is this critical technology coming from? One of the Army’s UAS platforms is right here in Maryland.

AAI Corporation of Hunt Valley manufactures the Shadow 200, the Army’s Short Range Tactical UAS.

AAI is a medium-sized company that produces a variety of defense technology, including test equipment for measuring and aligning systems on aircraft.

However, the company is best known for producing the Shadow.

Joseph Hart, AAI production manager, said at any given time, there are between eight and 10 Shadows flying in the skies of Iraq.

“We support Shadow throughout the product life-cycle, from cradle to grave, so to speak,” Hart said. “We engineered the system, develop product upgrades and also serve as the depot-level maintainer while supplying spare parts and technical support around the world.”

Hart stressed there is much more to the Shadow and any other UAS than just the aircraft.

“It is a whole system that we work with – ground controls, launcher, simulation and training tools and of course, the aircraft itself,” he said.

The production process is lean and repeatable as teams develop manuals for every step in the manufacturing process.

Shadows are made of an 85 percent composite material of multi-directional carbon and fiber glass. The components go through a heating process and form a homogenous materiel that is lightweight and strong.

This composite material covers the fuselage of the vehicle, which is made from a special aircraft grade wood.

“Some people are surprised that a material as simple as wood is used on our ‘birds,’ but it’s proven to be effective,” Hart said.

While some production teams work

on the ‘bird,’ other teams integrate ground control systems on site. Military vehicles are brought to the facility and equipped with a control center designed for two operators.

In the field, one Warfighter handles the coordinates and direction of the vehicle while the other operates the camera, which Hart described as the key component to the UAS.

“The camera is the pay-load – the whole mission of the UAS revolves around that camera and gathering intelligence,” explained Hart. “At eight-thousand feet, our cameras can see vehicles and at thirty-five hundred feet, they can see license plates.”

The camera has both electro-optical and infrared capabilities.

Hart told one story about the infrared capability of the camera and how it helped save lives in Iraq.

“Troops were bogged down at night in Baghdad in a difficult situation, and a laser pointer attached to the camera helped point a path to safety, which the troops were able to follow using night vision goggles,” said Hart.

Hart said these success stories are important to the AAI workforce and leadership ensures the information gets relayed to the engineers and technicians.

“It’s important to provide a link between a person’s job and the contributions that our end products make in defending our country and in saving our Soldiers’ lives,” he said.

Shadows have logged more than 320,000 flight hours, of which 90 percent have been in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Every Shadow goes through the same process before making it to the field.

Systems are tested and certified at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Hart added that systems returning from Iraq also go through a 10-week period of ‘reset’ where they are repaired, renewed and re-certified.

“We pride ourselves on ensuring a system is as good as new after a reset period,” Hart said.

AAI works closely with Army units at Redstone Arsenal and other program offices.

For more information on the Shadow 200, visit www.aaicorp.com.



Photos courtesy of AAI CORPORATION
An electrical technician works on the Shadow 200 in the production line at AAI Corporation in Hunt Valley, Md. Shadow® is a registered trademark of AAI Corporation.



The Shadow 200, the Army’s short range tactical unmanned aerial platform, is launched in theater in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



A Warfighter adjusts the wing on the Shadow 200 during operations in Iraq.



The Shadow 200 is comprised of a ground control station vehicle for two operators to control and monitor flights, a radar assembly, the aircraft and a launcher (pictured above).